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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the recommendations on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum and on the Millennium Development Goals

Information received from the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations

Summary

The present report contains brief information statements from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Department of Public Information, the World Food Programme (WFP), the Council of Europe and the Asian Development Bank regarding their activities in relation to indigenous peoples' issues.

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs points out that, to date, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has made no recommendations that directly relate to the Office, while the Department of Public Information states that it works closely with the Permanent Forum in terms of producing materials and providing support for disseminating information on indigenous peoples and their issues. WFP outlines the support it provides to indigenous peoples in regard to the effects of climate change and the Council of Europe outlines its work on data collection and disaggregation. The Asian Development Bank states that it focuses its work on capacity-building projects and technical assistance projects in order to provide equitable opportunities for indigenous peoples.

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I. Information from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

1. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has reviewed the recommendations emanating from the previous six sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The Office notes that none of the recommendations are expressly addressed to its office, although that is not entirely surprising. The mandate of the Office is essentially that of ensuring effective inter-agency coordination in humanitarian emergencies and it does not, as a rule, implement projects and programmes that would be aimed at specific categories of beneficiaries, including indigenous peoples.

2. That is not to say that the Office does not undertake activities that may have a bearing on indigenous peoples. In particular, one of the Office's tasks is to ensure that in a given humanitarian setting the protection and assistance concerns of indigenous peoples (as well as those of other groups, such as women, children, older persons, etc.) are taken into account in needs assessments and, in turn, addressed in the overall humanitarian response (i.e., in the programmes and activities of operational agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) etc.). This is not a task that would be undertaken by the Office's field offices on a routine basis and as such does not necessarily merit special attention in the context of the Permanent Forum.

II. Information from the Department of Public Information

A. Response to recommendations addressed exclusively to the Department under one or more areas of the Forum's mandate/agenda

3. In the report on its sixth session (E/2007/43), the Permanent Forum does not include any recommendations directed to the Department of Public Information. Recommendations addressed to the Department by the Permanent Forum at previous sessions are already reflected in the Forum's recommendations database.[1]

4. In chapter I, paragraph 100, of the report on its third session (E/2004/43), the Permanent Forum stated that:

> The Forum welcomes the preparation of daily press releases in English, French and Spanish on the discussions of the Forum during its session. The Forum requests the Department of Public Information, in collaboration with the secretariat of the Forum, to:
>
> (a) Ensure the widest distribution of the press releases;
>
> (b) Develop an overall strategy to fulfil the mandate of the Forum to disseminate information on indigenous peoples and their issues.

The Department produced a number of new materials for the Permanent Forum in 2007, including a new masthead, a poster and press kit covers. The Department also updated the text of the main brochure of the Permanent Forum and facilitated the

[1] http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/recommendations.htm.

translation of a new brochure, which was reprinted in several languages. A press kit was produced for the Forum's sixth session in May 2007, consisting of an advance media advisory, a press release, two background papers on key themes of the session and a list of potential interviewees. The press kit was translated into French and Spanish and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum also made it available electronically on its website and distributed it to the press and delegates at the sixth session. The press kit was also translated into Portuguese for local distribution in Rio de Janeiro by the United Nations Information Centre.

5. Guidance for the promotion of the sixth session of the Permanent Forum was sent to United Nations information centres. The Department of Public Information organized four press conferences and arranged more than 20 interviews with the BBC News programme Asia Today, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, ABC Radio, the South African Broadcasting Corporation, the Voice of America (radio and television) and the Spanish news agency EFE. Highlights of the media coverage for the session included significant coverage of the opening press conference, most of which were reproduced material from the press kit, including 75 placements of an Associated Press article (in *The Guardian*, the *International Herald Tribune* and on the website of Al Jazeera, among others). Further media coverage included approximately 15 articles in English and Spanish on the closing session of the Permanent Forum and approximately 40 articles in Spanish throughout the session.

6. In August 2007, the Department of Public Information organized a press conference with indigenous leaders regarding the status of negotiations on the then draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. A media advisory was drafted and circulated to United Nations correspondents and relevant media contacts.

7. For the International Day of the World's Indigenous People on 9 August 2007, a media advisory and press release were drafted and disseminated. An information note was sent to all United Nations information centres regarding the Day, which included the press materials mentioned above and an update on the status of the then draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and its upcoming consideration by the General Assembly. The Department provided television and photographic coverage of special events at Headquarters on the Day. Interviews were arranged with indigenous representatives for the radio service of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea Radio (Radio UNMEE) and Radio Corrientes (Argentina), as well as for Radio Adelaide and the Australian Financial Review at the request of the United Nations Information Centre in Canberra. Press coverage included the publication of a message by the Secretary-General for the Day in national newspapers, including the daily *El Peruano* in Peru. The Department conducted media monitoring of the coverage of the Day, and press clippings were compiled and sent to the secretariat of the Permanent Forum.

8. The United Nations Information Centre in Bogota held a press conference to mark the Day, in which representatives of the Awá, Kofanes, Arhuaca and Cauca peoples participated, among others. This event was covered by major national media outlets. Information centres also carried out activities to promote the Day in Argentina, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and Trinidad and Tobago.

9. The Department of Public Information prepared a media advisory and guidance to information centres in advance of the consideration of the then draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the General

Assembly in mid-September 2007. On the day of the vote on the then draft Declaration (13 September), a media stakeout was arranged outside the General Assembly Hall so that delegates and indigenous representatives could speak to the press. The adoption of the Declaration by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 was covered by all major international wire services and several national wire services. Highlights of the coverage include an Associated Press article quoting the Chairperson of the Permanent Forum and Government representatives, which was carried in the *International Herald Tribune*; a news piece in *The New York Times*; BBC World Service Radio and BBC World Television pieces using excerpts from indigenous representatives at the stakeout; and many articles in prominent Canadian and Australian media. An analysis of press coverage and a selection of press clippings were compiled and sent to the secretariat of the Permanent Forum.

10. In October 2007, the Department of Public Information arranged two interviews with United Nations Radio (English and Spanish) for the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples during his visit to Headquarters to attend the meetings of the Third Committee. The Special Rapporteur also took part in a live video talk with students and educators on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples via the CyberSchoolBus website of the Department (http://cyberschoolbus.un.org).

11. The Department is currently working on producing a print version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in all official languages of the United Nations, which will be ready for distribution before the Forum's seventh session in April 2008. Press and information materials will also be disseminated to promote the seventh session.

B. Response to recommendations addressed to two or more agencies or the United Nations system in general under one or more items of the Forum's mandate/agenda

12. In chapter I, paragraph 43 of the report on its third session (E/2004/43), the Permanent Forum recommended that the Department of Public Information: (a) encourage the dissemination of information in indigenous languages at the local level, concerning the rights of indigenous peoples, especially indigenous women; (b) encourage and support the training of indigenous women in human rights and the rule of law; and (c) provide technical assistance to Governments to establish the fundamental rights of indigenous peoples, especially indigenous women. The Department's Dag Hammarskjöid Library organizes annual training sessions in English and Spanish covering online access to United Nations information for participants of non-governmental organizations attending the sessions of the Permanent Forum.

C. Focal point on indigenous issues

13. An Information Officer in the Palestine, Decolonization and Human Rights Section of the Strategic Communications Division is the focal point for indigenous issues within the Department of Public Information. The focal point maintains a high level of direct collaboration with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum in

order to develop effective communications strategies to promote the work of the Permanent Forum and to disseminate information to the press and the public on indigenous issues.

D. Information regarding the goals, objectives and Programme of Action of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

14. The Department of Public Information organized its tenth annual United Nations student conference on human rights from 5 to 7 December 2007 under the theme "Recognizing the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" in support of the goals of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. Student leaders attending the conference, including indigenous students, had the opportunity to study the topic in-depth, as well as to develop their skills in the areas of public speaking, team and consensus-building, negotiating, research and drafting.

E. Information and suggestions regarding the special theme of the next session of the Permanent Forum

15. In relation to the special theme of the seventh session, "Climate change, bio-cultural diversity and livelihoods: the stewardship role of indigenous peoples and new challenges", the Department of Public Information will explore integrating related material into its recently launched website "Gateway to the UN System's Work on Climate Change".[2] This website highlights the wide-ranging work of the United Nations system on climate change and makes it easier for Internet users to retrieve information on the work of the United Nations in this area.

III. Information from the World Food Programme

16. Climate change is linked with increased frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events, more frequent disease outbreaks and reduced agricultural yields in low latitude countries. Its impacts are likely to undermine hard-won gains against hunger and poverty, including by increasing vulnerabilities or creating new ones.

17. Indigenous peoples are particularly vulnerable because they often live in hazard-prone areas and their livelihoods rely on climate-sensitive sectors. Climate change may also disrupt traditional lifestyles and settlement patterns of indigenous peoples. These changes are likely to further affect their nutritional status, which is often among the lowest in a country.

18. Climate change adaptation strategies need to be carefully designed in order to benefit those mostly affected, including poor or indigenous populations. Involving indigenous social institutions and drawing on indigenous knowledge to cope with climate-related shocks will be essential elements of an effective climate change adaptation strategy.

[2] http://www.un.org/climatechange/.

19. The World Food Programme (WFP) is a front-line implementing agency dealing with complex humanitarian crises, including those manifested by droughts, floods, degradation of natural resources and conflict. Increasingly, these crises may be caused or aggravated by climate change. WFP activities help to enhance food security ecosystems at the community and village levels, protect the livelihoods of food-insecure indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups and contribute to building resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change. Safety-net systems, using food, vouchers and cash for the most vulnerable populations, play a vital role in this regard. In addition, construction of small dams and dykes and the planting of trees are activities that local communities, supported by the international community, including WFP, embark upon to build up resilience against natural disasters.

20. Given its wide and deep field presence, WFP is well-placed to ensure that the real leaders in disaster preparedness and responses, namely individuals and communities, are provided with the resources they need to make the decisions that will increase their abilities to adapt to hazards and thus prevent disasters. The integration of traditional community knowledge systems about hazards and potential impacts and science-based systems broaden and deepen the coverage of early warning systems.

IV. Council of Europe

A. Data collection and disaggregation

21. The Council of Europe addresses the issues of data collection and disaggregation as well as free, prior and informed consent in various forums, including the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the Committee of Experts on Issues relating to the Protection of National Minorities, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, the European Roma and Travellers Forum and the Specialist Group on Roma, Gypsies and Travellers. However, the Council of Europe deals with these issues through focusing on national/ethnic minorities (see also para. 26), rather than from the perspective of indigenous peoples.

B. Policies on indigenous issues

22. The Council of Europe has no instrument, be it legally binding or not, dealing specifically with the situation of indigenous peoples. However, a number of human rights instruments of the Council of Europe are relevant to indigenous peoples, whose concerns can often be addressed through the general protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, notably as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights.

23. Among Council of Europe instruments, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities is of particular relevance to indigenous peoples because the treaty sets out a number of key principles for the preservation and development of the cultures of national minorities as well as the essential elements of identity.

24. Although the Framework Convention protects persons belonging to national minorities, the Advisory Committee has consistently taken the view that the recognition of a group of persons as constituting indigenous peoples does not prevent persons belonging to the group from benefiting from the protection afforded by the Framework Convention. Furthermore, the Advisory Committee has repeatedly stressed that the applicability of the Framework Convention does not necessarily mean that the authorities should use the term "national minority" in their domestic legislation and practice to describe the group concerned. Against this background, the Advisory Committee is of the opinion that the protection of the Framework Convention remains available to persons belonging to indigenous peoples if they wish to rely on the protection provided therein. Hence the Advisory Committee encourages the authorities to continue their dialogue with representatives of indigenous peoples with a view to ensuring that the Framework Convention and the treaties designed for indigenous peoples are not construed as mutually exclusive regimes, and that the persons belonging to indigenous peoples can continue to rely on a wide range of international norms.

25. The monitoring of the Framework Convention by the Advisory Committee and the Committee of Ministers provides illustrations of these principles in the States parties with indigenous peoples (that is, essentially, Sweden, Norway and the Russian Federation). The corresponding country-specific opinions and resolutions can be downloaded at the website of the secretariat of the Framework Convention.[3] These texts contain findings and recommendations in regard to the development, implementation and monitoring of domestic policies on indigenous peoples' issues in the States parties concerned.

26. The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages is another specific instrument of the Council of Europe that is of relevance for indigenous peoples. Although languages used by indigenous peoples are not addressed as such in the Charter, this instrument is designed to protect and promote all regional or minority languages (including languages of indigenous peoples) as a threatened aspect of Europe's cultural heritage and to enable the speakers of a regional or minority language to use it in private and public life.

27. The Charter sets out the main objectives and principles that States undertake to apply to all regional or minority languages existing within their national territory. It contains a series of measures designed to facilitate and encourage the use of specific regional or minority languages in public life. It is intended to ensure, as far as needed and reasonably possible, that regional or minority languages are used in education and the media and to permit and encourage their use in legal and administrative contexts, in economic and social life, for cultural activities and in transfrontier exchanges. The Charter is based on an approach which fully respects national sovereignty and territorial integrity. It does not see the relationship between official languages and regional or minority languages in terms of competition or antagonism. Development of the latter must not obstruct knowledge and promotion of the former. A deliberate decision was taken to adopt an intercultural and multilingual approach in the Charter with each category of language taking its rightful place. In each state the cultural and social reality must be taken into account.

[3] www.coe.int/minorities.

28. The Charter establishes a mechanism for systematically monitoring its implementation. A committee of independent experts elected by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe examines the observance of the undertakings of States parties on the basis of reports provided by these States and on-the-spot visits carried out by the committee in the countries concerned. After the committee's reports and the recommendations have been adopted by the Committee of Ministers, they are published, with the agreement of the States concerned, on the website of the secretariat of the Charter.[4]

C. Focal point on indigenous issues

29. The Council of Europe has no focal point for indigenous issues as such. Bearing in mind the explanation provided in paragraph 26 above, the units that deal with most of the substantial issues relevant to indigenous peoples are: (a) the secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities; (b) the Directorate of Monitoring; and (c) the Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs.

D. Conferences and meetings regarding indigenous issues

30. The Council of Europe is going to organize an international conference in Strasbourg on 11 March 2008 to mark the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of both the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (see also comments in para. 26).

V. Asian Development Bank

A. Introduction

31. Since 1998, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has adopted a policy that the programmes and projects it supports and finances should avoid negatively affecting indigenous peoples, provide adequate and appropriate compensation when negative impact is unavoidable and, to the maximum extent possible, be designed and implemented with the informed participation of affected communities. Moreover, a major priority to implement the Bank's medium-term (2005-2009) strategy is strengthening social inclusiveness by ensuring that development efforts provide equitable opportunities especially to the poor and the marginalized. Throughout the years, ADB has encouraged the participation and involvement of indigenous peoples' organizations and of indigenous peoples themselves in the design and monitoring of various projects and in the review of its policies and strategies.

32. In 2007, the Bank was able to provide financing for capacity-building programmes and technical assistance programmes geared towards design and implementation of more socially and culturally sensitive development projects of its developing member countries. The Bank also continued to provide capacity

[4] www.coe.int/minlang/.

development for its own staff at headquarters and resident missions to be able to identify and address indigenous peoples issues in projects.

33. The year 2008 will continue to provide an opportunity for ADB to further consult stakeholders as it enhances the effectiveness of its safeguard policies through a safeguard policy update, and to ensure their relevance to changing client needs, recent global developments and new lending modalities and instruments.

B. Response to the recommendations of the Forum at its sixth session

Response by the Bank to recommendation 28[5]

34. The Asian Development Bank's Policy on Indigenous Peoples of 1998[6] was conceived taking into mind "the circumstances of indigenous peoples and identifying measures toward satisfying their needs and aspirations" (para. 5). The Policy also recognizes that indigenous peoples have "unique ties and attachments to traditional habitats and ancestral territories and natural resources in these habitats and territories" (para. 9). ADB is aware that development programmes can lead to externally determined land use change and therefore has ensured in its policy that planning as it relates to indigenous peoples is conducted with the informed participation of and in consultation with the indigenous peoples themselves, to determine appropriate mitigation measures and to ensure that self-sufficiency of communities continue, and that cultural integrity will not be lost in the process of development.

Response to recommendation 99[7]

35. In 2007, ADB continued its review of three safeguard policies, which are environment, involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples. The review process is meant to ensure "the sustainability of project outcomes by protecting the environment and people from potential adverse impacts of projects".[8] The policy update will provide greater harmonization with safeguard practices across multilateral financial institutions and tailor safeguard approaches to different clients. The safeguard policy update process, particularly in relation to the concerns of indigenous peoples, had involved and will continue to involve broad stakeholders' consultations with indigenous peoples' organizations and project-affected indigenous peoples. The safeguard policy update process will also derive information and recommendations from discussions with stakeholders in the course of ADB operational missions. In November 2007, a major consultation of indigenous peoples organizations was conducted in Manila, attended by representatives of various indigenous peoples' organizations from six Asian countries, including the chairperson of the Permanent Forum, to seek their recommendations on the consultation draft safeguard policy statement. The recently approved United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was

[5] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 23* (E/2007/43), para. 28.

[6] http://www.adb.org/Documents/Policies/Indigenous_Peoples/default.asp.

[7] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 23* (E/2007/43), para. 99.

[8] ADB, Consultation draft of the safeguard policy update, 2007, para. 36.

presented during the consultation and will be used as reference for the series of consultations.

C. Response to the recommendations of the Forum at its previous sessions

Response to recommendation 26 of the Forum at its second session[9]

36. One of the five priorities of the second medium-term strategy of ADB is strengthening inclusiveness, which underlines the importance of expanding opportunities in rural and remote areas, combined with measures to address non-income dimensions of poverty. Through its policy of inclusiveness, ADB encourages greater equity in access to services, resources and opportunities; the active participation of the poor, marginalized groups, and other members of society, including indigenous peoples, in social, economic and political life; and household-level security to cope with chronic or sudden risks, especially among poor and marginalized groups.

37. The 1998 Policy on Indigenous Peoples focuses on the participation of indigenous peoples in development and mitigation of the undesirable effects of development. Paragraph 31 of the Policy objectives[4] states that "The Bank's development efforts should ensure that development initiatives affecting indigenous peoples are effective and sustainable. Initiatives should be compatible in substance and structure with the affected peoples' culture and social and economic institutions, and commensurate with the needs, aspirations and demands of affected peoples. Initiatives should be conceived, planned, and implemented to the maximum extent possible, with the informed consent of affected communities, and include respect for indigenous peoples' dignity, human rights and cultural uniqueness".

Response to recommendation 61 of the Forum at its third session[10]

38. The Bank's second medium-term strategy lays fresh emphasis on investing in key social development interventions to promote gender equality by supporting education for girls, better health for girls and women and microfinance projects that help women.

39. ADB, to the extent possible, has pushed for the inclusion of components that will provide culturally tailored microfinance services for indigenous women in the various projects it finances. In 2007, the 2000-approved Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project, for instance, implemented the microfinance component which has targeted and benefited mostly indigenous women from Chakma, Marma and Tripura peoples of Bangladesh. The Bank also continued to implement and design new technical assistance projects in Cambodia, China, Nepal, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, towards social and economic empowerment of indigenous women (e.g., regional technical assistance (RETA) 6247 HIV/AIDS Vulnerability and Risk Reduction Among Ethnic Minority Groups Through Communication Strategies implemented in Greater Mekong Subregion; and

[9] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 23* (E/2003/43), chap. I, para. 26.

[10] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 23* (E/2004/43), chap. I, para. 61.

grant 9033 Promoting Silk Income for the Rural Poor in Central Highlands, implemented in Viet Nam).

Response to recommendation 127 of the Forum at its fourth session[11]

40. The Bank formally relayed to the Permanent Forum its commitment to cooperate and participate in the activities of the Forum, beginning at its fifth session. In 2007, ADB invited the Chairperson of the Permanent Forum to address ADB officers and staff on recent global developments on indigenous peoples' issues and the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

41. In support of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the General Assembly (resolution 61/295), ADB spotlighted the Declaration in its indigenous peoples website.[12]

D. Other significant information on recent policies, programmes, or activities regarding indigenous issues within the Bank

Projects and activities

42. The Bank conducts environmental and social due diligence in all projects proposed for Bank financing and continually monitors implementation of all its projects, particularly those that are highly complex and sensitive. In 2007, the six operations departments (including resident missions) of the Bank conducted due diligence missions and initial poverty and social assessments, and encouraged developing member countries to implement preparatory activities that would ensure that impacts on indigenous peoples were identified and strategies were determined to address existing and potential indigenous peoples' issues that had arisen and would arise from proposed development projects. Alongside the operating departments efforts, the Bank's Environment and Social Safeguards Division conducted due diligence and review missions for four complex ongoing projects: (a) Tangguh Liquefied Natural Gas Project in West Papua, Indonesia; (b) Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project in Bangladesh; (c) Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Nam Theun II Hydroelectric Project in the Lao People's Democratic Republic; and (d) Melamchi Water Supply Project in Kathmandu. The missions discussed with project implementers various issues relating to indigenous peoples and recommendations that they fast track the implementation of development plans geared to social or indigenous groups, including addressing complaints from relevant indigenous peoples groups and resolving other implementation issues.

Available publications and handbooks

43. In 2007, ADB released reprints of a publication series entitled *Indigenous Peoples: Ethnic Minorities and Poverty Reduction*. The series comprises four country reports on Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam, a regional report covering the four countries and a regional report covering Pacific member countries. Copies of the reports can be requested from the ADB indigenous peoples website.[10]

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[11] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 23* (E/2005/43), chap. I, para. 127.

[12] http://www.adb.org/indigenouspeoples.

44. ADB also continued to update a draft Indigenous Peoples' Policy Handbook. The Handbook complements the Bank's policy on indigenous peoples and describes required processes and guidelines to ensure the integration of the concerns of indigenous peoples in the project cycle. Good practice examples are included in the handbook, which staff could apply and adapt to ensure that projects financed by the Bank are consistent with the needs and aspirations of indigenous peoples and compatible in substance and structure with their culture, and to ensure that projects are planned and implemented with the informed participation of affected indigenous peoples. The development of the Handbook is being done in collaboration with both the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank as part of the effort to produce a global indigenous peoples policy handbook. The handbook will be further updated following the outcome of the Safeguard Policy Update.

E. Focal point for indigenous issues

45. The focal point for indigenous peoples issues is the Director General of the Regional and Sustainable Development Department with the support of the Environment and Social Safeguards Division.[13]

F. Capacity-building programmes

46. As part of its regular learning and development programmes for staff, ADB annually conducts at least two three-day orientation programmes on environment and social safeguards. The orientation devotes one day to indigenous peoples issues to enable staff to understand the principles of the policy and for them to manage indigenous peoples issues in the various stages of a project. The orientation also aims to instil consciousness towards mainstreaming indigenous peoples safeguards in the application of Bank lending and thematic policies. In 2007, the Bank conducted two orientation programmes, in which 50 Professional staff and national officers from both headquarters and resident missions participated.

G. List of conferences and other meetings, 2007-2008

47. In 2007, ADB conducted the following conferences, seminars, and meetings related to indigenous peoples:

(a) Presentation on global indigenous peoples issues and free, prior and informed consent by the Chairperson of the Permanent Forum:

20 July 2007, ADB headquarters, Manila

(b) Stakeholders consultation on the Safeguard Policy Update:

17 May 2007	Informal consultation with the Asia Caucus of the Permanent Forum, New York
14 and 15 November 2007	Central Asia multi-stakeholder consultation, Bishkek

[13] See also http://www.adb.org/indigenouspeoples.

19 and 20 November 2007	Informal consultation with multilateral finance institutions, Rome
26 and 27 November 2007	Consultation with indigenous peoples' organizations, ADB headquarters, Manila
28 and 29 November 2007	South-East Asia (Philippines) multi-stakeholder consultation, ADB headquarters, Manila

48. In 2008, the following stakeholder consultations and meetings on the Safeguard Policy Update are scheduled:

16 and 17 January 2008	South Asia multi-stakeholder consultation, New Delhi
18 January 2008	Consultation with civil society organizations, New Delhi
30 and 31 January 2008	Pacific multi-stakeholder consultation, Sydney
12 and 13 February 2008	Indonesia multi-stakeholder consultation, Jakarta
February 2008	Consultation with civil society organizations, ADB headquarters, Manila
27 and 28 February 2008	East Asia multi-stakeholder consultation, Beijing
March 2008	Mekong multi-stakeholder consultation, Hanoi
To be announced	Afghanistan/Pakistan multi-stakeholder consultation Europe multi-stakeholder consultation Japan multi-stakeholder consultation North America multi-stakeholder consultation
Third quarter of 2008	Management review meeting on the draft policy paper (working paper)
Fourth quarter of 2008	Board approval on the final policy paper (restricted paper)